

Applicant : William J.B. Brown
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CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A footwear construction comprising:

an upper including a forefoot portion and a heel portion, said upper including a peripheral allowance;

an insole including a downwardly extending insole rib, said insole shaped to correspond to said forefoot portion, said insole rib terminating short of said heel portion;

a welt secured to said peripheral allowance and said insole rib in said forefoot portion, said welt terminating short of said heel portion, said welt being fully exposed and visible in said forefoot portion in the completed footwear construction;

a midsole secured to said welt in said forefoot portion, said midsole terminating short of said heel portion;

a heel cradle secured to said peripheral allowance in said heel portion, said heel cradle extending upwardly along a portion of the upper; and

an outsole secured to said midsole in said forefoot portion, said outsole secured to at least one of said heel cradle and said peripheral allowance in substantially only said heel portion.

2. (currently amended) A footwear construction comprising:

an upper including a forefoot portion and a heel portion, said upper including a peripheral allowance;

an insole including a downwardly extending insole rib, said insole shaped to correspond to said forefoot portion, said insole rib terminating short of said heel portion, The

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~~footwear construction of claim 1~~ wherein said insole includes a peripheral edge, and wherein the insole rib is inset from said peripheral edge a first distance and a second distance, said second distance greater than said first distance;

a welt secured to said peripheral allowance and said insole rib in said forefoot portion,
said welt terminating short of said heel portion;

a midsole secured to said welt in said forefoot portion, said midsole terminating short
of said heel portion;

a heel cradle secured to said peripheral allowance in said heel portion; and
an outsole secured to said midsole in said forefoot portion, said outsole secured to at
least one of said heel cradle and said peripheral allowance in substantially only said heel portion.

3. (original) The footwear construction of claim 2 wherein said insole rib is inset said second distance along a portion of the rib that is closest to the heel portion.

4. (original) The footwear construction of claim 1 wherein said outsole defines an upwardly extending flange and wherein said welt includes an end, said end terminating behind said flange so that said end is unviewable.

5. (original) The footwear construction of claim 1 wherein said upper includes an arch region, and wherein said welt is stitched to said peripheral allowance substantially only in at least one of said forefoot region and said arch region.

6. (original) The footwear construction of claim 1 wherein said upper includes an arch region, and wherein said outsole includes an upwardly extending wall that traverses at least a portion

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of a width of said outsole in at least one of said forefoot region and said arch region.

7. (original) The footwear construction of claim 6 wherein said midsole terminates adjacent said upwardly extending wall.

8. (currently amended) A footwear construction comprising:

an upper including a peripheral allowance;

an outsole including a forefoot portion, an arch portion and a heel portion, said ~~insole~~ outsole further including an upwardly extending flange in at least one of said arch portion and said heel portion;

a midsole joined with said outsole in substantially only at least one of said forefoot portion and said arch portion;

an insole including a downwardly extending flange substantially only in at least one of said forefoot region and said arch region;

a welt stitched to said midsole, said insole and said peripheral allowance in substantially only at least one of said forefoot portion and said arch portion, said welt terminating short of said heel portion, said welt tucked at least partially behind said upwardly extending flange so that a terminating end of said welt is concealed from view, whereby said outsole is joined with said upper in said forefoot region, but not in said heel portion, by said welt, wherein said welt remains fully visible in said forefoot portion of the completed footwear construction.

9. (currently amended) The footwear construction of claim 8 comprising a heel cradle joined with said outsole in substantially only at least one of said heel portion and said arch portion, said heel

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cradle extending upwardly along at least a portion of said upper.

10. (original) The footwear construction of claim 9 wherein said heel cradle is secured to said peripheral allowance in substantially only at least one of said heel portion and said arch portion.

11. (currently amended) The footwear construction of claim 9 ~~comprising~~ wherein said insole includes an outer periphery, said flange inset a distance from said outer periphery, said distance varying along at least a portion of the outer periphery.

12. (currently amended) The footwear construction of claim 11 wherein said upwardly extending flange is disposed in said arch region.

13.-20. (cancelled)